

REMARKS

Claims 4-14, 16-19, 31 and 33 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 32, 34 and 35 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein, and claim 33 is amended.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 because the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration as the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution; (c) satisfy a requirement of form asserted in the previous Office Action; and (d) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 4, 6-12, 14, 16, 18, 19 and 31 are allowed and claim 35 contains allowable subject matter. By this Amendment, the allowable subject matter of claim 35 is incorporated into independent claim 33.

The Office Action rejects claim 32 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 4,095,057 to Power in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,379,988 to Mattatall. This rejection is respectfully traversed. However, to expedite allowance, claim 32 is canceled. Accordingly, the rejection is moot. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

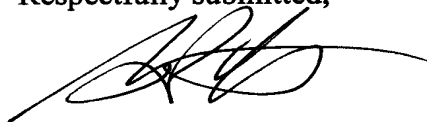
The Office Action rejects claims 33-34 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Power. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 33 is amended to incorporated the subject matter of dependent claim 34 and allowable dependent claim 35. Accordingly, independent claim 33 defines over Power and contains allowable subject matter. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



Darle M. Short
Registration No. 29,213

Stephen P. Catlin
Registration No. 36,101

DMS:SPC/spc

Date: August 18, 2006

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

| |
|--|
| <p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p> |
|--|